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Racine Public Library Board of Trustees Support Racial Justice and Equity

The Racine Public Library Board of Trustees joins the American Library Association, the Black Caucus of the American Library Association and many others in condemning the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police officers and the far too many killings of Black people, Indigenous people and People of Color by unjust systems. We include our LGBTQi community, especially People of Color, who have been treated unjustly. We also take a stand against all forms of racism and bigotry that have created conditions where Black, Indigenous and People of Color have been shut out of the freedoms of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We believe strongly that public libraries have an important role in being a place where people of all races, creeds and colors can learn together, develop understanding, and create solutions that promote equity for people who have been separated by structural and systemic barriers.

Over the past thirty years the Racine Public Library has contributed to this cause by providing opportunities for staff to attend multiple trainings on racial equity and creating a curriculum on anti-racism that was mandatory for all staff to take in 2018/2019. The library has also hosted many hours of community group discussions on racism and racial healing.

We affirm and believe that Black Lives Matter. As an institution we have much more self-examination to do to ensure that our action reflect these values. We will continue striving to be an open and inviting space for learning and challenging unjust societal norms here in Racine County, across the nation and throughout the world.